

**AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) The use of a combination of an inhibitor of cyclic guanosine monophosphate specific phosphodiesterase type 5 (PDE5) and an angiotensin II receptor antagonist ~~for the preparation of a medicament~~ for the palliative, curative or prophylactic treatment of hypertension, including essential hypertension, pulmonary hypertension, secondary hypertension, isolated systolic hypertension, hypertension associated with diabetes, hypertension associated with atherosclerosis and renovascular hypertension, congestive heart failure, angina, stroke, diabetes and impaired glucose tolerance comprising the step of administering to a patient an effective amount of said combination.
2. (Currently Amended) The use according to claim 1, wherein the inhibitor of PDE5 has an  $IC_{50}$  value, the concentration of compound required for 50% inhibition of enzyme activity, of less than 100nM.
3. (Original) The use according to any preceding claim, wherein the inhibitor of PDE5 has an  $IC_{50}$  value of less than 50nM.
4. (Currently Amended) The use according to ~~any preceding~~ claim 3, wherein the inhibitor of PDE5 is selected from

5-[2-ethoxy-5-(4-methyl-1-piperazinylsulphonyl)phenyl]-1-methyl-3-n-propyl-1,6-dihydro-7*H*-pyrazolo[4,3-*d*]pyrimidin-7-one (sildenafil);

(6*R*,12*aR*)-2,3,6,7,12,12*a*-hexahydro-2-methyl-6-(3,4-methylenedioxyphenyl)-pyrazino[2',1':6,1]pyrido[3,4-*b*]indole-1,4-dione (tadalafil);

2-[2-ethoxy-5-(4-ethyl-piperazin-1-yl-1-sulphonyl)-phenyl]-5-methyl-7-propyl-3*H*-imidazo[5,1-*f*][1,2,4]triazin-4-one (vardenafil);

3-(1-methyl-7-oxo-3-propyl-6,7-dihydro-1*H*-pyrazolo[4,3-*d*]pyrimidin-5-yl)-*N*-(2-(1-methylpyrrolidin-2-yl)ethyl)-4-propoxybenzenesulphonamide;

5-[2-ethoxy-5-(4-ethylpiperazin-1-ylsulphonyl)pyridin-3-yl]-3-ethyl-2-[2-methoxyethyl]-2,6-dihydro-7*H*-pyrazolo[4,3-*d*]pyrimidin-7-one; and

5-(5-acetyl-2-butoxy-3-pyridinyl)-3-ethyl-2-(1-ethyl-3-azetidiny)-2,6-dihydro-7*H*-pyrazolo[4,3-*d*]pyrimidin-7-one

and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

5. (Original) The use according to claim 4, wherein the inhibitor of PDE5 is selected from 5-[2-ethoxy-5-(4-methyl-1-piperazinylsulphonyl)phenyl]-1-methyl-3-n-propyl-1,6-dihydro-7*H*-pyrazolo[4,3-*d*]pyrimidin-7-one (sildenafil) and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

6. (Original) The use according to claim 5, wherein the inhibitor of PDE5 is sildenafil citrate.

7. (Currently Amended) The use according to ~~any preceding~~ claim 1, wherein the angiotensin II receptor antagonist is selected from candesartan, eprosartan, irbesartan, losartan, olmesartan, olmesartan medoxomil, saralasin, telmisartan and valsartan and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

8. (Original) The use according to claim 7, wherein the combination of the inhibitor of PDE5 and the angiotensin II receptor antagonist is selected from

sildenafil citrate and candesartan;

sildenafil citrate and eprosartan;

sildenafil citrate and irbesartan;

sildenafil citrate and losartan;

sildenafil citrate and olmesartan;

sildenafil citrate and olmesartan medoxomil;

sildenafil citrate and telmisartan; and

sildenafil citrate and valsartan.

9. (Currently Amended) The use according to claim 1, wherein the medicament is for the treatment of hypertension.

10. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising an inhibitor of cyclic guanosine monophosphate specific phosphodiesterase type 5 (PDE5) and an angiotensin II receptor antagonist.

11. (Original) A pharmaceutical combination for simultaneous, separate or sequential administration for treating hypertension, comprising an inhibitor of cGMP specific phosphodiesterase type 5 (PDE5) and an angiotensin II receptor antagonist.

12. (Original) A kit for treating hypertension, the kit comprising: a) a first pharmaceutical composition comprising a PDE5 inhibitor; b) a second pharmaceutical composition comprising an angiotensin II receptor antagonist; and c) a container for the compositions.

13. (Original) A method of treating hypertension in a subject comprising treating said patient simultaneously, separately or sequentially with an effective amount of an inhibitor of PDE5 and an angiotensin II receptor antagonist.